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Manager

Mongoose vs. Lizard.

BY JACOB COERPER.
Many of our old residents know when and why the mongoose was brought to this country, but very few know of the real destruction that has been wrought by that animal since his destruction.

People lay the presence of bugs, leaf hopper and insects, etc., to importation. While it may be true and perhaps is that some of these insects were imported yet the great majority of them were here long ago but are more numerous because they are assisted to live and thrive by the mongoose destroying their natural enemies, the lizards.

The lizard is the natural enemy of bugs and insects including mosquitoes, as he lives on nothing else and never in any way harms plant life.

When I first came to the Kona district in 1886, the country was well stocked with lizards and all kinds of fruits were growing in profusion. Kitchen gardens contained cabbage, tomatoes and all other varieties of vegetables which were free from insect pests; and while the leaf hopper could be found in the canefields he was kept so well in check by the lizard that he never caused any trouble. But later on when the mongoose came, he commenced a campaign of destruction on the lizard with the result that the lizard decreased and the pests increased to such an extent that today almost nothing can be raised in the district and fruit trees that used to bear a heavy crop of fruit are now barren and pest ridden.

These pests have gained such headway that today the blossoms on guavas, oranges and other trees are destroyed, and the serious question arises, what is to become of Kona's main product, coffee, if these conditions continue to exist?

The only salvation for these dis-

tricts and for the islands in general is that a careful investigation should be had and that the government, both Federal and Territorial, should aid and assist in bettering these conditions by the extermination of the mongoose and the importation of a fresh supply of reptile of the lizard family the natural enemies of pests, also there should be an importation of insectivorous birds.

Song Hits of 1905

As has been the case in a number of English musical comedies produced in the United States, an interpolated song entitled "Daisy I am Crazy," gives promise of being the biggest success in the "Earl and the Girl," which was presented recently in Chicago and will open shortly at the Garfield theatre, New York. It is written by Mr. Dick Temple, who is one of the stars in the production and author of "Any Old Tree." Mr. Alec Clarke, the principal comedian, will also introduce Benj. H. Burt's "A Thousand Miles From Land" in the same production.

Mr. H. W. Petrie's new ballad "My Heart's Tonight In Tennessee" gives promises of being the greatest ballad success he has ever written, by present indications, although it will be difficult for it to surpass the success of his last hit "When The Sunset Turns The Oceans, Blue to Gold." The new ballad is of a sweetly sentimental character, and has already been called a second "Swanee River."

The above songs are published by Jos. W. Stern & Co. New York City.

Mrs. Fairbanks, wife of the Vice President-elect, is described as a very winning, approachable woman. For four years she has been president-general of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Drove Settlers Away From Hawaii Nei.

One great obstacle to be overcome in connection with the bona fide settlement movement is the influence of the local "knocker!" It will be well to recount a flagrant instance. Some time ago a retired business man—a German—arrived here from the mainland with four grown sons—the women folks to follow. They set about to secure farming land near Honolulu and had decided to establish a big homestead in one of the valleys when they fell in with the knocker and received such dreadful discouragement that they broke off all negotiations and left for the bleak clime of Southern California. The "knocker" was interviewed by a town business man and only declared that he himself was dissatisfied and wanted to leave town. Asked the price of his holding he gave a figure four times more than the sum for which he had listed the property with a selling agreement. So far as the Report knows, this was the end of the incident. The "knocker" is drawing a salary from the Territorial Treasury each month. Something should be done in a case like this.—Berrey's Report.

Rev. Charles Wagner, author of "The Simple Life," has delivered a sermon in Paris, in which he said: "I found President Roosevelt a man of lofty ideals and of simple but high purpose. As President of the United States, I believe he is the greatest statesman on earth to day. His task is more difficult than the task of any ruler in Europe."

Evan Roberts, the revivalist, who has excited a religious frenzy in Wales, was a young miner when he "received a call" to raise the fallen. His success as an evangelist has been marvelous. Roberts is described as a man with passionate convincing utterance. While he speaks, every eye is riveted on him, every ear seems strained, as if afraid a single word should be lost.

CHARITY AND FADS

Speaking of gratitude and favors remembered and returned, Mr. Keene has a record forty years old. A retired sailorman once aided Mr. Keene in California; that was two score years ago. Then the sailorman died. Mr. Keene cared for his children and sent them to school. Now he sends the sailorman's grandchildren to school.

The famous lobbyist, Sam Ward, once came near enough to Mr. Keene to be of friendly use. When the lobbyist fell upon bad days, it was Mr. Keene who settled upon him an income of \$10,000 a year, and the beneficiary died in Italy enjoying it to the last. On one occasion Mr. Ward told Mr. Keene that he had discovered an enterprise wherein he desired to embark. It was as sure as the Bank of England, and would make him a Monte Cristo. Mr. Ward's lips were sealed against disclosing the nature of the enterprise, even to Mr. Keene.

There was fire in the eye of Mr. Ward and a color of hope in his cheek; urged by these signs, Mr. Keene gave him \$25,000. It developed later that Mr. Ward sunk every shilling with a German alchemist in efforts to turn iron into gold, in which audacious possibility the hard-headed lobbyist believed as readily as tho he were a Doctor Dee or Conan Doyle.

These strong men of money have their weak sides; they have their fads, and will spend money like water on them. Mr. Keene's weakness is the racehorse; Mr. Morgan's is pictures; the late Mr. Whitney's was rugs (he is said to have paid \$35,000 for one, and the transaction would have been all right had he left the two last ciphers off the price); Mr. Brady's—of the Tobacco trust—is black pearls; Mr. Addicks—of Bay State Gas—is emeralds; while Mr. Lawson will go in pawn to buy a ruby.—Literary Digest

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